Claims:

1. A method of managing a telecommunications network, comprising:

presenting a Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) path configuration wizard to a user, including:

presenting the user with a selection of SONET path configuration options corresponding to a network device port;

receiving a SONET path configuration option selection from the user; and

displaying a graphical representation of a SONET path configuration in accordance with the user selection.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

implementing the SONET path configuration within the network device.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein displaying a graphical representation of a SONET path configuration comprises:

displaying a graphical representation of each SONET path position within the SONET path configuration.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein displaying a graphical representation of a SONET path configuration comprises:

displaying a graphical representation of each SONET path width within the SONET path configuration.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the SONET path configuration comprises one SONET path.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the SONET path configuration comprises a plurality of SONET paths.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

displaying a SONET path table including an entry for each SONET path within the SONET path configuration.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein presenting the user with a selection of SONET path configuration options comprises:

    presenting a configuration shortcut representing a typical SONET path configuration for the network device port.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the configuration shortcut is a first configuration shortcut and the typical SONET path configuration is a first typical SONET path configuration and wherein presenting the user with a selection of SONET path configuration options further comprises:

    presenting a second configuration shortcut representing a second typical SONET path configuration for the network device port.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the configuration shortcut comprises a single concatenated path.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the configuration shortcut comprises an inventory of SONET path configurations that each completely consume the network device port's capacity.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein if the SONET path configuration option selection from the user corresponds to the configuration shortcut, the method further comprises:

    presenting a number of paths inventory;

    presenting a type of paths inventory; and

    receiving a number of paths or a type of paths selection from the user.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein presenting the user with a selection of SONET path configuration options comprises:

presenting a custom configuration option.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein if the SONET path configuration option selection from the user corresponds to the custom configuration option, the method further comprises:

presenting an Available SONET Paths inventory to the user;

receiving a SONET path selection from the user;

displaying the SONET path selection in an Allocated SONET Paths inventory; and

presenting an updated Available SONET Paths inventory to the user in accordance with the SONET path selection.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the SONET path selection is a first SONET path selection and wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a second SONET path selection from the user;

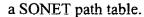displaying the second SONET path selection in the Allocated SONET Paths inventory; and

presenting another updated Available SONET Paths inventory to the user in accordance with the second SONET path selection.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein prior to presenting a SONET path configuration wizard to the user, the method further comprises:

presenting a graphical user interface (GUI) to the user; and

selecting the network device port from the GUI.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein selecting the network device port from the GUI comprises:

selecting the network device port from a network device mimic.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein selecting the network device port from the GUI comprises:

selecting the network device port from a port inventory in a Ports tab.

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19. The method of claim 16, wherein selecting the network device port from the GUI comprises:

selecting the network device port from a SONET interfaces inventory in a SONET interfaces tab.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein prior to selecting the network device port from the GUI, the method further comprises:

selecting the network device from the GUI.

21. The method of claim 1, wherein after presenting a SONET path configuration wizard to a user, the method further comprises:

receiving a network device port selection.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein receiving a network device port selection comprises:

receiving slot input from the user;

receiving a port input from the user; and

receiving a type input from the user.

23. A network management system comprising:

a Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) path configuration wizard capable of presenting valid SONET path configuration options to a user.

24. The network management system of claim 23, wherein the SONET path configuration wizard comprises:

a SONET path position graphic; and

a SONET path width graphic.

25. The network management system of claim 23, wherein the SONET path configuration wizard comprises:

a SONET path table.

26. The network management system of claim 23, wherein at least one of the valid
SONET path configuration options comprises:

a configuration shortcut.